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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 16 | Humidity 60% Mainly clear sky. Misty morning Sensex 58,644 | Nifty 17,516 | Gold 47,948 | Silver 60,852 | Dollar 74.64 | Euro 85.46 | GBP 101.05

IT IS CERTAINLY NOT A DATE!

PAGE 3

1929-2022

MELODY QUEEN DEPARTS

PAGE 12

Hydrology report suggests placement of bunds for water harvesting, mounding of trees, cleaning of existing 74 recharge wells at Cubbon Park

WALKING ON WATER

Survey to help water conservation, ecological balance

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Cubbon Park, currently under development by the Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL), has finally got a hydrology report.

The report shall help in water conservation and in maintaining the ecological balance at the park, thanks to the efforts of the many citizens who banded together for the hydrology report, roping in eminent experts, who have now finished the preliminary study.

A hydrology report is the study of the quality of water stored or conveyed on the land surface and in soils and rocks near the surface. The study will help assess and improve the groundwater table, assist in creating wetlands in low-lying areas in the park, and improve flora, fauna and aquatic life in the park.

Experts said the last hydrology study of the park was done 20 years ago. Now, with the BSCL carrying out development works, the latest study was made possible. Initially, citizens in their wish-list of Smart City works at Cubbon Park, had asked to draft a budget to carry out a hydrology report; however, according to sources, as it wasn't carried out then, the citizens themselves met eminent water expert Dr Inayathulla M, professor at UVCE who runs the Water Institute, who along with his students, is now carrying out the hydrology survey.

"We are calculating capacity of each waterbody; a pumping study is ongoing, where we will know the sustainability of yield from existing wells..."

— Dr Inayathulla M, UVCE professor

The study noted that the goal to address water balance at Cubbon Park shall be realised

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

In letter and spirit

Peenya flyover load test begins; 'may be opened for traffic by weekend'

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After a long delay, load testing of the Peenya flyover began on Sunday. According to Peenya traffic police, the load testing began Sunday morning, and is expected to be carried for the next three days. The hope is, the flyover may be opened for traffic by this weekend. However, going by the series of missed deadlines, motorists are keeping their fingers crossed.

The 'swift' action by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) was made possible after a 'strong' letter from the city police. Recently, West DCP (traffic) Kuldeep Jain had written to the NHAI stating that as NHAI was not taking concrete steps to reopen the Peenya flyover, traffic was affected.

The NHAI had to take up repair works between pillar number 102 and 103 near Swathi pillar bunk and had sought permission for closure of the flyover for a week. Hence, the flyover was shut from December 25, 2021.

As the repair works could not be completed sooner, NHAI requested the traffic police to extend the closure till January 14 this year.

Peenya elevated highway also known as Sri Shivakumar Swamiji Highway is an all-important highway connecting to Bengaluru. The highway is the only link that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Work from museum

The Indian Music Experience (IME) is inviting working professionals, freelancers and creative people to #WorkFromMuseum at the museum. It's time to pack your bag and explore a new and creative environment to work with ease.
Working Days: Tuesday to Sunday
Timings: 10 am – 6 pm; Cost: Rs 250 per day
For queries: 9686602366

02 Bill to Biden

If cartoons are your way to de-stress, check out Indian Institute of Cartoonists's showcase: America in cartoons, from Bill to Biden, an exhibition of cartoons and caricatures by New York-based cartoonist Shreyas Navare. The exhibition comprises 101 cartoons and caricatures drawn spanning five US Presidents from 1998 to 2022. This exhibition also includes artworks from Shreyas Navare's travels across various US states for his coverage of the 2012 and 2016 US Presidential Elections through the eyes of a cartoonist.
Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery, Craig Park Layout
When: Till February 12

03 Jokes aside...

Do you have a special talent for jokes? Here's your chance to try your best jokes out in front of a live audience. Frontrow is organising open mic sessions, twice every day. Book your virtual seats now and get ready to laugh or make people laugh. Each session will last one hour and 15 minutes. **Where: Zoom; When: At 8 and 10 pm; Register: bookmyshow.com**

Skin in the game

After a dip in donations during the pandemic due to covid scare, the supply of cadaver skin increases in skin bank as normalcy returns to the city

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Cadaver skin donations, needed to treat patients with third-degree burns, have increased in the city. During the pandemic, the skin bank located at the government-run Victoria Hospital had reported a shortage.

Donations had become scarce due to the fear of contracting covid. But with normalcy returning to the city, there has been an increase in the number of donations.

"The demand for cadaver skin hasn't gone up. We are seeing around 180 to 200 patients in a month and roughly four or five cases per day. There was a small dip in the donations during last year.

However, now we have a sufficient supply of donations to treat burn victims," said Dr KT Ramesha, head of plastic surgery, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI).

He noted that although there hasn't been an increase, the pattern of burn victims has changed. "Nowadays, we mostly get industrial injury cases, accidents and gas leakage cases. Despite the dip during the pandemic, donations have increased," added Dr Ramesha. During the pandemic, the skin bank only had 4,500 sq cm of skin graft available for treatment. Currently, it has 5,000 sq cm available with them. Nagaraj BN, in charge of the skin bank, explained that the current numbers are indicative of the available stock after distribution as per requirements.

Noting the use of silk-worm cocoon-based dressings, Dr Ramesha said that they are just an advanced form of dressing, they cannot replace cadaver skin."We have been using the silk-worm based dressing for four or five years now and they are used alongside other treatment methods. The company manufacturing these dressings is also coming with other kinds of dressings like silver-based dressings on-par with imported dressings," he said.

A file pic of the burn unit in Victoria Hospital

On Dec 20, BM reported an increase in organ, skin donations. On Sept 24, BM reported a shortage in skin bank

> **"We are seeing around 180 to 200 patients in a month and roughly four or five cases per day. We have a sufficient supply of donations to treat burn victims**
> – Dr KT Ramesha, head of plastic surgery, BMCRI

'Swift' action after 'strong' letter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

connects 22 out of 31 districts in Karnataka and also the sole connecting road to Maharashtra and Goa. This road is also a key connecting road to Peenya industrial area, one of the largest industrial clusters in South Asia. The elevated highway was used by roughly 2 lakh vehicles per day.

"It has been observed that despite the completion of the repair works, the NHAI officials continue to delay the load testing without which the flyover cannot be opened at all. It has been observed that no urgency has been seen on throwing open the flyover at the earliest. Despite constant follow-up with NHAI officials, there has been no progress. The request of the police that the flyover should be allowed for emergency services like ambulances or light vehicles has not been accepted. It has also been observed that despite reminders for safety audit and fixing of other key issues were given a miss and NHAI has been sleeping over the issue without acting on it. As this flyover is closed, it is also affecting the VIP movement as well. Hence, we are asking for taking up load testing at the earliest and if any accidents take place due to engineering fault, then the NHAI officials will be held responsible for this," Jain had stated in a letter.

Due to closure of the flyover, motorists are forced to use the narrow roads causing congestion in the neighbouring areas. Even the police personnel who are managing traffic on the ground are finding it tough to manage the congestion and convince people, the police said.

Arjun advances to second round of qualifiers at Bengaluru Open

Arjun Kadhe upset sixth seed Johan Nikles of Switzerland 6-4, 6-4 to take one step closer to gaining an entry into the main round of the Bengaluru Open ATP Challenger here on Sunday.

In a clash of two Indians, eighth seed Mukund Sasikumar overcame Adil Kalyanpur 6-2, 6-3 and became only the second Indian out of nine in the fray to advance to the second round of the qualifiers.

Pune-based Arjun was serving for the match at 5-3 in the second set after having taken the first at 6-4.

In a battle of unforced errors, Arjun lost his serve and then broke his opponent's serve to win the match.

"I think I served well today which put me into good stead. I did not offer a breakpoint for him until the second set," said the 28-year-old Arjun.

"It was tough for both of us as the ball was flying and hence it is more of forced errors rather than unforced," said Arjun.

The second round of the qualifiers and five of the first round matches of the main draw will be held on Monday. **– PTI**

It is certainly NOT a date!

Police advise everyone to keep social media accounts locked after cases of personal info thefts to create fake dating app profiles emerge

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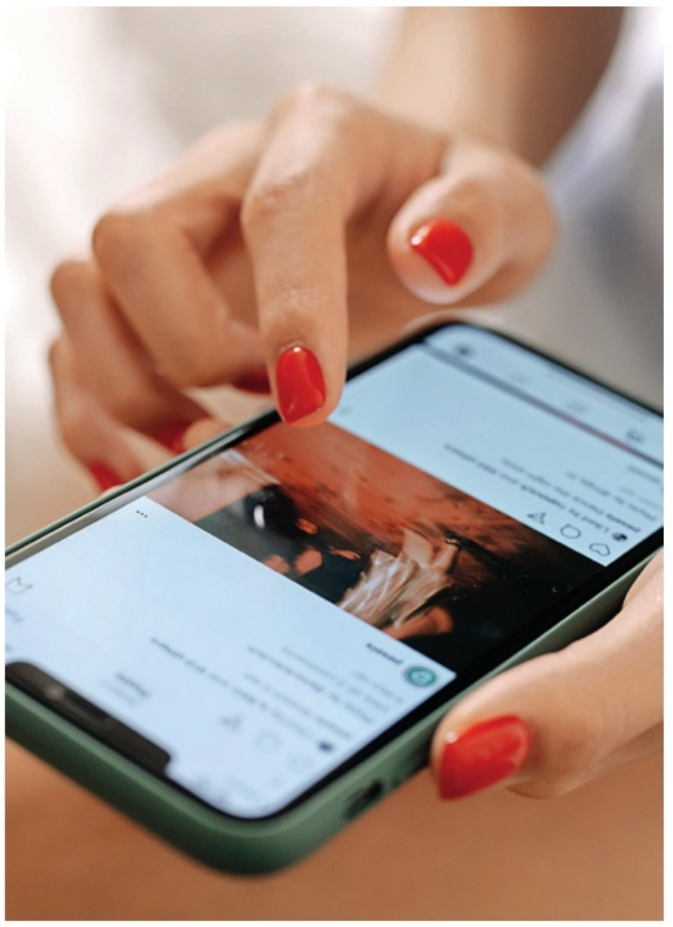
With many women's photos and identity being misused in dating apps to con people, cyber cops are cautioning people to keep their social media profile locked to prevent cyber criminals from stealing information online.

Though most report the incident on the application and do not follow up, very few also approach the police seeking help to trace the accused. Vaishali (name changed), a resident of Richmond Town approached the police last week to file a complaint against the unknown accused who misused her photos to create a fake account on a dating application. She told Bangalore Mirror she had learnt about the fake profile through a friend from New Delhi who called her to inform that her photos were being misused.

"I was shocked to see the screenshots received from my friend and the person had used a different name, different details with my photos stating I lived in Delhi. I immediately reported the profile and brought the account down but I was not satisfied and wanted to know who had done that. I wrote a letter to the women commission and even approached the cyber crime police to trace the accused who could be one of the followers on my social media profile," she said.

"Some people create fake profiles to exchange nude photos, blackmail and to extort money while some misuse photos to take revenge



In another incident, a 28-year-old woman whose identity was stolen to create a fake profile on a dating app said that she was engaged and was never on a dating site so she never knew that her profile was on the site. She said, "Someone had used my name and my information to create a fake profile on a dating app and cheated one person who contacted me through social media accusing me of extortion. However, after speaking to the person I learnt that someone had stolen my identity to cheat him and he had approached the police. I'm not on dating applications and none off my friends are also on it so I wasn't aware of this and now i'm not sure if I should keep checking on all sites if my photos or personal information is being misused and report them."

A senior police officer said that irrespective of gender, one must lock their profile on social media to prevent people from stealing information including photos. "Cyber criminals use photos and personal information to cheat unknown persons online. Some people create fake profiles to exchange nude photos, blackmail and to extort money while some misuse photos to take revenge or spread hate against a person over personal issues. Criminals take photos of women and morph them to harass known persons. Some criminals steal identity to take money from the victim's known persons and all this could be prevented if one can keep their profiles locked," he said.

Spate of stray hit & runs shake animal lovers

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There is a shocking rise in the cases of hit and run against stray dogs in the city. Animal lovers are seeing too many cases of rash and negligent driving by people who then do not even stop the vehicle to see if the dog is alive or not after the accident.

Vikash A Bafna from Friend for Animals Trust said they received news of three hit and run cases in the last three days off which two were badly injured and cannot walk for their entire lives. "In any hit and run case, if the dog sustains spinal injury, it is disabled for its entire life. Just to save a few seconds by speeding, people forget that the dogs' lives matter and just speed away. They need to be careful while driving and cannot speed without seeing what's happening around or who is coming in front of their vehicle," he said.

In a brutal incident, a two-year-old stray dog was run over thrice on Wheelers Road on Wednesday night and the driver sped away without stopping. One of the eyewitness who filed a complaint with the Pulakeshinagar police said that on Wednesday night she was out with her friend to a supermarket on Wheelers Road when she heard the noise of the dog and turned around.

"I saw that a car had hit a stray dog and the dog fell ahead but the car which was speeding, did not stop and ran over twice on its leg. I rushed over and took the dog to an ABC centre on Queens Road where first aid was given and later the dog was shifted to the CUPA rescue and rehabilitation centre," she said. According to her this is not the first case in the area.

"On New Year's Eve too, I rescued a dog that was severely injured by a similar accident. Hit and run cases are becoming more common and people are not empathetic towards animals," she said. Vikash who had also attended to this case said that there were two more hit and run cases which he attended to back to back.

He said, "I rescued two strays from Indiranagar and Shivajinagar and both were badly injured. If only the drivers are careful enough to apply brakes at the right time, their lives could have been saved. Now both have injured their spinal cord and are not able to move and no surgery can be done as well and they are disabled for the rest of their lives." According to him, very few people adopt disabled dogs and take care of them.

"Not just dogs, stray cats are also in danger because off people not knowing how to drive carefully and I rescued two cats from Bellandur and Hebbal and one of them could not make it due to the severe injury. Both were run over by a four wheeler and one of them was crushed. We are trying to spread awareness on this issue and are asking motorists to be more cautious while driving," he said.

FAKE NEWS BUSTER MIRROR

HEADLINE ON VAXX IN WATER WAS DIGITALLY ALTERED

THE CLAIM

Social media users have been sharing a fake article that wrongly says New Zealand's government is planning to introduce covid-19 vaccinations into the water supply. The headline of the fake image reads: "Leaked emails expose Governments [sic] 'underhanded' vaccine plan."

SO, WHAT'S THE TRUTH?

According to Reuters, the false text has been mocked up to look like it was published by the New Zealand Herald. No such article or social media post was published by the outlet, Reuters reported. The New Zealand Herald confirmed that it did not publish the report. "No such post – or story – was ever produced by the NZ Herald," Shayne Currie, Managing Editor of the NZ Herald, told Reuters. According to Reuters, the image circulating on social media is false and digitally altered.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's separate the news from the noise, Bengaluru. Tell us about that incredible-sounding story/news/alert that you've received on WhatsApp or social media and Bangalore Mirror researchers and editors will see if it checks out. If it doesn't, we'll call it out

TOPCOMMENTS

Can we have good roads before new fine rules?

BM's story 'Only ASIs are allowed to collect traffic fines: Top cop' has elicited readers' responses. Danish asks If BTP and government are so concerned about safety, why don't they check the quality of the roads full of potholes, uneven structure every 10 metres, traffic police standing at signals to collect fines rather than standing before red lights? Rules are simply introduced to milk money one or another way, without giving ease to citizens. Maheswaram V writes, while it is good move, can there be some easily identifiable uniform or identity to find out who is an ASI because many don't know who is the authorised person to collect a fine. A user by the name Don says speed check teams near Nandi Cross, NH44 seem to have a tampered equipment. Is there an agency that calibrates these machines regularly?

WEBHITS

3 most-read articles on the Mirror site

- Prostitution rackets busted in salons
- Only ASIs can collect traffic fines
- Bustin' loose

Floating solution or confusion?

Experts divided over efficacy of floating islands placed over lakes to clean them

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Last year, six floating islands were deployed in Kannamangala Lake in a bid to restore the water-body

Several lakes in the city are found showcasing plants-on-raft structures, also known as floating islands. The structures are placed in a bid to absorb the nutrients from the lake body. However, lake experts have called out this practice "as mere cosmetic solutions" that do not even try to address the root problem ailing the lakes.

Last year, six floating islands of 1.2 m X 1.2 m were deployed in the Kannamangala Lake in a bid to create a sustainable method to restore water-bodies. Activist groups who were part of the deployment process told BM that the floating islands clean the water-body naturally and absorb the nutrients in the lake.

They further claim that they increase the dissolved oxygen levels in the water while providing habitat for birds. "We primarily use certain plant varieties that are found near wetlands, which are more capable of absorbing the nutrients in the lake," said a member from the lake group.

Spread over 18 acres, the Kannamangala lake was rejuvenated with the help of citizens and the government in 2019. For the rejuvenation, Rs 60 lakh was spent with Rs 25 lakh from MLA Arvind Limbavalli. Post rejuvenation, the lake could hold 9 crore litres of water and the groundwater level rose to 400-500 ft.

Once a lake is rejuvenated, several steps need to be undertaken to maintain the same quality of water. One of the steps undertaken in such rejuvenated lakes is to use these floating islands. Floating islands are found with great potential in maintaining the balance, however lake experts are of the contention that floating island deployment in the city is less scientific and more about eye-washing.

They further observe that though such efforts do not cause any harm to the lake, they also fail to address the root problems ailing the lakes.

> **"The artificial structures are practically ineffective when a natural process already exists that performs the same function with greater efficiency**
>
> –Nagesh Aras, lake expert

Veteran lake activist and Founder of Friends of Lake, Ram Prasad exclaimed that these only served the purpose of beautification and increasing citizen engagement. "I haven't seen any study or paper supporting the floating island method. If the lake is spread over one acre, half of the lake should be covered with these structures for them to be effective. Just 8-10 units per lake are not going to help. The roots of these plants also extend up to 3-4 inches, leaving the rest of the water untouched. A well-constructed wetland will serve a better purpose."

Explaining the process, lake expert Nagesh Aras said, "A wetland absorbs the phosphorus and nitrates and converts it into biomass towards the formation of the plant. In the process, the nutrition in the lake is consumed. The artificial structures are practically ineffective when a natural process already exists that performs the same function with greater efficiency. Deep-rooted plants like water hyacinth can serve the goal and also prevent the growth of algae."

He added that these optics could work to some degree if the sewage ingress in Bengaluru lakes was so low. "Lakes in Bengaluru are given an 'F' grade by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), which is the lowest grade possible. Untreated sewage ingress into lakes needs to be stopped first. Even if a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) is present, it should have an additional stage with an anaerobic chamber to remove the nutrients. This will allow for a healthy lake to flourish while maintaining the habitat for birds and fishes," he said.

Water Scientist from Ashoka Trust for Research In Ecology And The Environment, Priyanka Jamwal noted that the problem lies in the unscientific implementation of these systems. "If they are designed properly with a set goal, they could work. These have to be designed according to each lake's requirement and deployed in strategic locations. In most lakes, the problem is that the goal is not clear and there is no scientific understanding of how many floating islands need to be deployed. We don't have any long-term study to assess the effectiveness of their working."

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9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Clear the mess
Rajajinagar

Vendors dump waste materials on 12th Main Road in 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, causing inconvenience to passersby. The road is cleaned every day and immediately, the vendors make a mess out of the place. Authorities should take necessary steps to keep the place clean.

Pavement blocker
Brunton Road

Two rolls of cables are stored on a pavement on Brunton Road for a while. The footpath is also broken and needs the attention of the authorities.

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Finding fur-ever home on V-Day

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Coming February 14, Valentine's Day, the ones finding love can bring home a canine friend from Bengaluru's largest indie pup adoption drive. Over 30 puppies will be seen at Rotary Club of Bengaluru finding their forever homes.

Indie Tails of Hope, which is run by rescuers and works for rescuers, is the community which will carry out the drive along with Rotary Club on Lavelle Road. What makes this drive unique is that no money will be charged for the adoption, while the rescuers will bear the first-year vaccination cost of the pups.

All the indie dogs up for adoption were rescued, while some were abandoned, some had other health problems or had met with accidents.

One Rajesh rescued Cap 10, a three-month-old pup, and gave it a new lease of life. Rajesh rescued Cap 10 when he was about to get hit by an auto. The pup was abandoned on the highway. He was disoriented without food and was caught between speeding vehicles.

The idea of initiating the drive on valentine's day, is to call people who can find a soulmate by adopting a pup.

Those who come for the adoption will have to undergo a screening process which will have 25 questionnaires that will have to be answered on the spot.

Anwesha Majumder, Founder- Indie Tails of Hope (ITOH) said, "We do not want people taking pups and abandoning them later."

While after the pup is adopted, the rescuers will follow up by visiting the adopters house, and the adopter will have to share pics of the pup for a minimum of three months. If any negligence is found, the pup will be taken back.

A firm push-back is crossing the limits?

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Residents of Electronics City have been waiting endlessly to get their localities merged with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Many local leaders allege there is a pushback from a section of IT-BT companies against the merger. For example, the Doddathoguru Panchayat that houses a few prestigious companies lost its village identity long ago and became part of the city. But, the companies are now becoming obstacles in the merger, some say.

Former Gram Panchayat member Chinnaswamy said, "IT-BT firms are working against inclusion of Doddathogur in BBMP limits thought it can generate Rs.400 to 500 crore in revenue to BBMP."

Some companies are spread across acres in this panchayat jurisdiction. Being in the the panchayat gives them a tax advantage. The allegation is that as if the area falls under BBMP, taxes also will rise, so, they are not interested in the merger. Former president of Doddathoguru panchayat BK Anil Kumar said, "There are many buildings that were illegally constructed in Doddathoguru. It is difficult to collect taxes from them. Once it joins with BBMP, all the firms will be compelled to pay tax."

Chaitra, a resident of the area also filed a writ in the High Court to include this village in BBMP limits. In July 2020, the High Court ordered that the village join with BBMP in eight weeks. But nothing happened in this respect. She also filed a Contempt of Court case. Against this background, though the Panchayat members' term ended in 2021, no elections were conducted here. The panchayat has Chikka Kammanahalli, Doddathoguru, Mylasandra, Bettadasanapura, Hommadevanahalli, and Vittasandra villages. These villages are adjoining to the Electronic city and are witnessing rapid growth. There are huge apartments complexes here and the population is said to be 1.15 lakh.

Bengaluru South MLA M Krishnappa said, "I will support inclusion of Doddathogur Panchayat to BBMP limits. This will increase BBMP's income." A resident Kantharaju said, "In the panchayat limits, land prices have skyrocketed."

Bangalore Mirror had reported earlier that the dreams of villages on the fringers to join the BBMP limits are shattered now as the BBMP is in no mood to propose the inclusion of villages to BBMP limits after extending it to 243 wards. Earlier the Government planned to expand BBMP by including villages around 1 km from the BBMP and increase the number of wards. But now the plan is to restructure BBMP wards without extending their limits. The -present 198 wards will be increased to 243 wards. Yeshwanthpur, Dasarahalli, Yelahanka, and some villages in Mahadevapura have lost their village character and become cities. Residents say gram panchayats can't provide the infrastructure facilities to these places with limited resources. The residents of these villages wanted their properties to be included in BBMP which also helps in developing infrastructure. So the legislators also had demanded that the government include them in BBMP.

Bangalore Mirror
Broken roads 'n hopes...
Are reality of many villages that were waiting to be added to BBMP's limits for infrastructural development as it looks unlikely that they will be included

"There are many buildings that were illegally constructed in Doddathoguru. It is difficult to collect taxes from them. Once it is with BBMP, all firms will have to pay tax

Ghostly curiosity gets man beaten up

A 'curious' youngster was thrashed by his neighbours as he entered into a so-called haunted bungalow to check on it.

The incident has been reported near Andrahalli, west Bengaluru. On Thursday night, residents of Andhrahalli were scared when the saw a 'light' in a multi-storied bungalow that had been abandoned since five members of the same family had committed suicide here. According to police sources, there have been many supernatural rumours swirling around ever since the suicides. As many surviving members were arrested in abetment to suicide, the house has been locked ever since.

For the last few weeks, the electricity connection has also been snapped. Now imagine the locals' surprise when they saw this light. Some residents mustered courage and entered the house to see a man with his torchlight turned on them. Seeing the people, the man, later identified as Bharat, tried to escape. Assuming he was a thief, the locals thrashed him and later handed over to the police.

Upon investigation, police reaslised that Bharat who hails from Doddaballapur and works in in a garment factory near Hegganahalli had just in to satiate his curiousity. He confessed to the police that as he would cross the house daily on his way to work, he wanted to see it and also probe the real reason behind the suicide. He broke open the door and began climbing the stairs using the torch.

Bharat told police that though he had no intention of stealing from the house, but had run as he was scared on seeing the people.

—Prakash VL

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TIMES inter

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BCCI to felicitate India U-19 boys in Ahmedabad

The triumphant India U-19 squad will be felicitated by the BCCI in Ahmedabad upon its arrival in India. On Sunday, the BCCI announced a cash reward of Rs 40 lakh each for the squad members and Rs 25 lakh each for support staff.

Following their famous win over England on Saturday, the Indian contingent called on the Indian High Commissioner to Guyana.

With little time to celebrate the success in the Caribbean, the squad will take the long flight back home on Sunday evening with connecting flights from Amsterdam and Bangalore before eventually landing in Ahmedabad.

The senior Indian team is also currently in Ahmedabad playing three ODIs against the West Indies. With the team in the bubble, it is not yet known if the U-19 boys will get to interact with their seniors.

"It has been a hectic schedule for the boys who have little time to rest. They will get some rest after they land in India," said a BCCI official.

Fresh from their win in the final, the boys headed to Guyana from Antigua and were felicitated by the Indian High Commissioner K J Srinivasa who is an avid cricket fan.

India skipper Yash Dhull clicks selfie with teammates after winning the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup Final

The players were tired but enjoyed clicking pictures with West Indies great Sir Curtly Ambrose, who was present at the function. Delhi-based Yash Dhull captained the Indian team in the Caribbean while Hrishikesh Kanitkar headed the support staff.

National Cricket Academy chief VVS Laxman was also in the Caribbean and played a massive role in taking care of the team in the wake of a COVID-19 outbreak which left five players infected including Dhull and his deputy Shaik Rasheed.

It was a record-extending fifth title for India who have made the final of the last four editions. **PTI**

Cubbon Park water report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

through sourcing the overall water required per day by using the existing wells, water from STPs and groundwater.

Cubbon Park has 14 small, and two medium and large underground stream networks, the study noted. The park has good water level content as it has many recharge areas, alongside three waterbodies within the park.

"From the preliminary study we have come to know that the water level in Cubbon Park is good as there are recharge areas. However, the main valley has lost its catchment area, due to various development works around the park. We need to improve the three waterbodies. The lotus pond is losing its catchment area as water is not going in the pond. We need to redesign the area so that water goes inside the pond. Same in the case of Karagada Kunte — certain development works need to be carried out," Dr Inayathulla said.

Careful placement of bunds to aid water harvesting, mounding of trees, cleaning of existing 74 recharge wells and making more recharge wells were suggested by the team and instead of using concrete, small bunds to move water to the dry pond, lotus pond and Karagada Kunte were recommended.

At a review meeting by Smart City officials, members of 'We Love Cubbon Park' and eminent experts, it was pointed out that the storage tanks proposed at the existing bamboo grove would serve no purpose as the water is insufficient and would be subject to more evaporation, and hence would be of no use.

According to Dr Inayathulla, minimal concrete structures and more tree cover, facilitate inbuilt recharging and authorities should maintain the groundwater available at the park: "Currently, we are calculating the capacity of each waterbody and a pumping study is ongoing, where we will know the sustainability of yield from existing wells; the results will be out soon."

Further, experts MB Krishna, Dr Vishwanath Srikantaiah along with Dr Inayathulla stated that the 2 hectare of land within the lotus pond and wetland outside should be protected, topography be left undisturbed and wild plants be allowed to grow naturally.

It was also brought to the attention that too much tampering with the lotus pond area would affect the Bal Bhavan side.

Srikantaiah, urban planner and water activist, said: "Cubbon park is getting its water supply from the old open well and waste water treatment plant located in the park. The hydrology study will assess how to manage rainwater, how to recharge it and how to use well water wisely. The efforts are to rejuvenate the three ponds and to keep them as wet lands of water bodies. There is a bit of sewage entering at one place, which is being addressed by the BWSSB; we will ensure that the sewage doesn't enter groundwater. The wells in Cubbon Park represent the water heritage while Karagada Kunte represents the cultural heritage; the study will help better manage the water."

Citizens working closely with the project pointed out that Smart City needs to be transparent and provide all the design to the public and experts in advance so that one can give suggestions, to improve water conservation and biodiversity of the park. "Smart City needs to consider the biodiversity and ecology of the park. It is not just about bringing in a change for recreational purposes.

The dropping of the hydrology survey by Smart City was shocking as water is the most precious resource of the park. However, now with the new report, they need to take every aspect into consideration and bring redesigns," said a member from 'We Love Cubbon Park'.

Long way to e-Karnataka

State accounts for 8.4 per cent of India's electric vehicle usage

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Of the electric vehicles in Karnataka, 69 per cent (56,737) are two-wheelers

Karnataka might be switching to the electric mode but the electric vehicles (EVs) in the State are yet to match up with others. Currently, Karnataka accounts for just 8.4 per cent of total EVs sold in the country. According to the latest statistics, there are 9, 66,363 EVs in the country and out of them 82,046 are plying in Karnataka.

The highest number of EVs are plying in Uttar Pradesh (2,76,217 vehicles) followed by Delhi (1,32,302). If we look at the break up of EVs in the State, 69 per cent (56,737) are two-wheelers, followed by 20 per cent three-wheelers, 8.7 per cent four-wheelers. The EVs are slowly picking up in other segments as well. There are 153 goods vehicles, 44 public service vehicles, one special category vehicle, one ambulance and 1,420 other vehicles in the EV category.

In a Lok Sabha reply, Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said, "To promote eco-friendly means of transportation and decarbonise the transport sector, the Government had notified GSR 167(E) dated March 1, 2019 for retro-fitment of hybrid electric system or electric kit to vehicles. The government had also notified the registration mark for battery-operated vehicles to be in yellow colour on green background for transport vehicles and for other cases, the numbers are printed in white colour on a green background.

The Government had earlier granted exemption to battery-operated transport vehicles and transport vehicles running on ethanol and methanol fuels from the requirements of permit. "The Centre issued an advisory to all States, regarding incentivisation of EVs. The Centre also issued an advisory to all States regarding sale and registration of EVs.

As per the third Biennial Update Report submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in February 2021, the total greenhouse gas emission from the transport sector in 2016 was 274.43 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent, which is 9.67 per cent of the total GHG emissions (without Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry) of India. Hence, the Centre was promoting EVs to curtail the CO2 emissions.

E-fuelling the future

The Centre had launched the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME India) Scheme in 2015 with an aim to reduce dependency on fossil fuel and to address issues of vehicular emissions.

Currently, Phase-II of FAME India Scheme is being implemented for a period of five years (from April 1, 2019) with a total budgetary support of Rs 10,000 crore. This phase focusses on supporting electrification of public and shared transportation and aims to support through subsidies, 7,090 e-Buses, five lakh e-three-wheelers, 55,000 e-four-wheelers and 10 lakh e-two-wheelers. The demand incentive for electric two-wheelers has been increased to Rs 15,000/KWh from Rs 10,000/KWh with an increase in cap from 20 per cent to 40 per cent of the vehicle cost from June 11, 2021, thus enabling cost of electric two-wheelers at par with that of ICE two-wheelers.

The Centre has approved a Production Linked Incentive scheme for manufacturing of Advanced Chemistry Cell in the country in order to bring down prices of batteries.

Drop in battery price will result in cost reduction of electric vehicles. Electric Vehicles are covered under Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Automobile and Auto Components, which was approved on September 15, 2021 with a budgetary outlay of Rs 25,938 crore for a period of five years. GST on electric vehicles has been reduced from 12 per cent to 5 per cent.

'Battery-swapping policy needs govt's support'

India's proposed 'battery swapping' policy is interesting, but it's unlikely to work beyond limited situations without a heavy-handed government mandate and subsidy, an expert from the automotive industry said.

In a major step to promote EV adoption in India, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while unveiling a Rs 39.45 lakh crore budget on Tuesday, announced that the Indian government will bring the battery-swapping policy to boost use of electric vehicles in the country in view of space constraints for setting up charging stations.

Responding to the new policy, Arthur Wheaton, an expert on the automotive industry and director of labour studies at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations, said the idea is likely to not work without a great deal of government involvement and policy. "Major car companies do not share the technology around batteries (or any technology) and the interchangeable batteries will mean lots of redundant batteries sitting around the country to be effective," he said.

It is very expensive for battery packs and limited supply of lithium and cobalt to waste sitting in gas stations across the country.

He further argued that getting all of the car companies to voluntarily use the same battery design and technology would have to be government-mandated.

Hyundai Motors India Managing Director Unsoo Kim said on Tuesday that the government's strong approach towards accelerating infrastructure development, and sustainability along with digitalisation in every sphere of business will give a strong impetus to the overall economy, while empowering consumerism in India. **-PTI**

CHARGING POINT

To be truly green, sun must shine

Aiming to demonstrate the concept of using a clean source of energy (solar) for charging Electric Vehicles (EVs), a new report has shown that electric vehicle charging stations (EVCSs) with solar rooftop photovoltaic (SRTPV) facilities are economically more viable than those with grid. "The mismatch between solar energy generation and consumption (from charging) can be solved by deploying net-metering at charging stations. Among the scenarios considered, an EVCS connected to RTPV under net-metering policy represents the best-case scenario with the least LCOC," the report by the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policies (CSTEP's) said.

The report is based on the CSTEP's system design for the pilot project at the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) Corporate Office premises consisting of a power conversion unit (PCU), solar rooftop photovoltaic (SRTPV) panels, a lithium-ion battery bank, and an EV charger as the main components.

The project showcases an intelligent bi-directional converter (PCU) that interfaces with SRTPV and battery systems (with DC coupling) to manage the energy flow with EV chargers and the grid. "An intelligent computing unit in the PCU commands the energy flow across these components to maximise the generated solar energy for self-consumption," the study said.

A novel framework to estimate the levelised cost of charging (LCOC) at a certain EVCS with grid connected RTPV and RTPV plus energy storage is also provided in the report. "for the widespread adoption of SRTPV-based EVCSs," the report said.

"Currently, only EV charging guidelines are in place, sourcing the power from renewable energy sources is not emphasised. Learnings from the study can, therefore, guide policies

–CSTEP study

K'taka 4th in Omicron wave

So far 1,115 cases have been detected in the state, but officer says number could be higher

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The Karnataka has the fourth highest number of Omicron cases in the country. According to the latest data, 1,115 cases of Omicron have been detected in the State. The highest number of Omicron cases have been detected in Maharashtra (3,130) followed by Rajasthan (1,813) and West Bengal (1,693), according to the data from the Union Health Ministry (till January 31). An official said that the numbers may be much higher as the current Omicron cases were as per the genome sequencing.

Recently, Karnataka's Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar had stated that the Omicron variant was more dominant in the ongoing third wave of covid-19 with 67.5 per cent of the samples testing positive for the variant. The statistics clearly indicated that Delta variant of covid-19 has become less dominant, which is now replaced by the Omicron variant, as against the second wave. The Delta variant, which was more dominant during the second wave with a 90.7 per cent positivity rate, has now become less dominant with a 26 per cent positivity rate.

According to the Indian SARS-Cov-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG), the Omicron wave continued to expand globally, with new highs being established for daily infections. However, the rate of hospitalisation during this wave was much lower compared to the previous wave with Delta, attributable to both intrinsically reduced severity with lesser propensity to cause pneumonias, and higher population immunity.

Due to the very high number of cases, the absolute number of hospitalisations have crossed previous highs in many countries and were creating stress on the healthcare systems. In India, Omicron is now in community transmission and have become dominant in multiple metros, where new cases have been rising exponentially. "The BA.2 lineage is a substantial fraction in India and Sgene dropout-based screening is thus likely to give high false negatives. Tests suitable for PCR-based screening applicable to all Omicron lineages have been approved for use. While most Omicron cases so far have been asymptomatic or mild, hospitalisations and ICU admissions have been increasing in the current wave.

The threat level remains unchanged. The recently reported B.1.640.2 lineage is being monitored. There is no evidence of rapid spread. While it has features of immune escape, it is currently not a variant of concern. So far, no case has been detected in India," the INSACOG report added.

A health worker collecting swab samples of out station bus passengers to test for covid at Majestic on Sunday

Recently, Karnataka's Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar had stated that the Omicron variant was more dominant in the ongoing third wave of covid

Cases fall below 4k

The number of covid cases continued its downward journey as the state logged 8,425 fresh cases and 47 deaths on Sunday, taking the total caseload and fatalities to 38,96,158 and 39,347 respectively. In its bulletin, the health department said that 19,800 were discharged, taking the total number of recoveries to 37,58,997, while active cases stood at 97,781. Bengaluru Urban contributed 3,822 fresh cases and 17 deaths. Mysuru reported 582 cases, Tumakuru 318, Hassan 276, Ballari 249, Mandya 241 and Belagavi 221. There were deaths in 16 districts including seven in Ballari, five in Dakshina Kannada and three in Mysuru. Zero fatalities were reported in 15 districts. The positivity rate was 6.51 per cent and the case fatality rate was 0.55 per cent. A total of 1,29,337 samples were tested in the state, including 99,023 RT-PCR tests on Sunday, taking the cumulative number of specimens examined to 6.27 crore.

State discoms owe ₹651 cr to gencos

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Total outstanding dues owed by electricity distribution companies (discoms) to power producers dipped 5.1 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1,15,972 crore in February, as per the latest data. At the start of January, discoms in Karnataka owed Rs 5,172 crore. By the end of January, Rs 651 crore is pending. Across the country, discoms owed a total of Rs 1,22,226 crore to power generation firms in February 2021, according to PRAAPTI (Payment Ratification And Analysis in Power procurement for bringing Transparency in Invoicing of generators). On a sequential basis also, total dues in February declined from Rs 1,16,834 crore in January.

In February, the total overdue amount, which was not cleared even after 45 days of a grace period offered by generators, stood at Rs 1,03,014 crore as against Rs 99,394 crore in the same month a year ago. The overdue amount stood at Rs 1,02,557 crore in January.

To give relief to power generation companies (gencos), the Centre enforced a payment security mechanism from August 1, 2019. It also gave breathers for paying dues to gencos due to the lockdown. It also waived penal charges for late payment of dues.

In May 2020, the government had announced a Rs 90,000-crore liquidity infusion for discoms under which these utilities got loans at economical rates from Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and REC Ltd. Later, the liquidity infusion package was increased twice.

Discoms in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu account for the major portion of dues to gencos in February, the data showed. Overdue of independent power producers amounted to 54.02 per cent of the total overdue of Rs 1,03,014 crore of discoms in February.

The proportion of central PSU gencos in the overdue was 19.14 per cent. Among the central public sector gencos, NTPC alone has an overdue amount of Rs 4,436.67 crore on discoms in February.

Among private generators, discoms owe the highest overdue amount of Rs 26,562.53 crore to Adani Power in the month under review. The overdue of renewable energy producers like solar and wind stood at Rs 19,717.59 crore in February.

(with input from Agencies)

Self-defence to be taught to women in schools, colleges

CM said departments of law, education, home and society should work together to safeguard women safety

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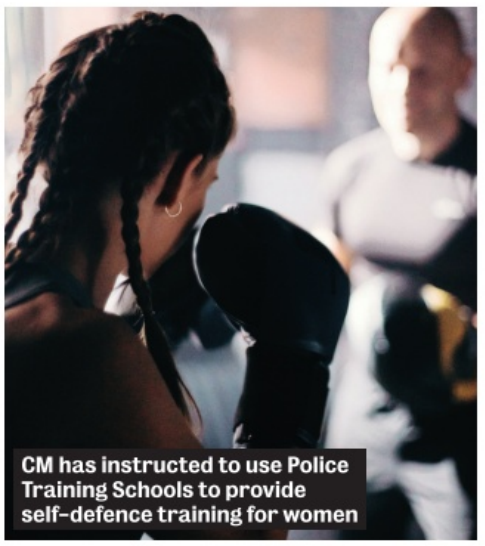
Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said that he has instructed the home department to use Police Training Schools to provide self-defence training for women. On Sunday, he launched the "Obavva Art of Self Defence Training" organised by the social welfare department.

"Many laws have been passed, programmes formulated and funds have been spent to stop harassment and atrocities on women. But there is a need for imparting self-defence training tools for them. The rogue elements could be taught a lesson if women are trained in self-defence," Bommai said, adding that the departments of law, education, home and society should work together to ensure the safety and dignity of women. This programme should go on throughout the year. All the programmes would be integrated and a new programme would be implemented for women's safety, Bommai said.

Self-confidence for self-defence

Self-confidence is needed for self-defence. "The Social Welfare minister and officials of the department are giving that tonic to you. An ambitious programme is being charted to provide self-defence training for 50,000 female students in backward classes and social welfare department hostels. It has been aptly named after Onake Obavva, the name itself gives the strength to fight… Karnataka is proud of its legacy of such courageous women. Kitturu Chennamma, Belavadi Mallamma, Onake Obavva.. they were more courageous than men," he said.



CM has instructed to use Police Training Schools to provide self-defence training for women

CM to meet state MPs for budget

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai is now busy preparing to present his maiden budget next month. In this regard, he is set to hold a meeting with MPs from the state in New Delhi on Monday to discuss various projects and programmes. He told reporters, "I will also meet the legal counsels who are representing the state in inter-state water disputes. A few important decisions will be taken on the future course of action. I have sought an appointment with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman. I intend to discuss the state budget, financial condition, GST and other issues."

Top spot for Karnataka

Bommai wanted Karnataka to hit the top spot in the country by the time the state would celebrate the 75th Rajyotsava. The government would work to provide education, employment and inspiration to achieve that, Bommai said.

The state government has decided to induct 7,500 more NCC cadets annually with an allocation of Rs 1,200 per cadet, 75 more NCC units would be started in schools and colleges. NCC Cadet strength in the state would be raised to over 50,000 by 2023.

A special programme is being formulated to impart self-defence training on par with military training for women, Bommai said.

HEALTH TIP: Drink a combination of turmeric, warm water and lemon juice to take care of your throat in winter

Jaggery has ample fibre, which helps in detoxifying the system and accelerates metabolism

BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I am suffering from acute erectile dysfunction. Since my wife insisted that I take help from a friend to satisfy her sexually, I called him over once. She has now got into a habit of calling him. I can't find a way to rise above this mess. Is there a medicine to cure erectile dysfunction? I am desperate.
Nobody needs to suffer from a sexual dysfunction. There is always a solution at hand. Unfortunately, you haven't been a King Arthur, and defended your possession. Perhaps it is not too late. Consult a sexologist, and show your friend the door.

2 I am a 16-year-old boy. I have developed acne on my face. I think it is because of masturbation. Can that be?
It can't be due to masturbation. I suggest you improve your diet, and exercise regularly. Wash your face four times a day with a facewash. Cut down on chocolates and oily foods. If this doesn't help, see a doctor to treat the pimples.

3 I am 19 years old and gay. Since I have unprotected anal sex often, I am keen to know how safe it is. What kind of complications can it cause?
It is totally unsafe. You can catch severe infections, include HIV and Hepatitis B, among a host of others. To be safe, always use a condom.

4 I am a 42-year-old man. For the past one month, I have been suffering from a nagging headache after having sex. Why?
See a physician who can check your blood pressure. Else, see a neuro physician.

MEET THE SEXPERTS
Use this QR code to send your questions to us

A for awesome

Enrich your diet with vitamin A for multiple health benefits

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Vitamin A is a group of fat-soluble vitamins and it's a nutrient that our body cannot manufacture and therefore has to be included in our diet. Vitamins are basically needed in small amounts to help our body function and health.

Types
There are two types of Vitamin A. One is preformed vitamin A (Retinol) which is basically found in animal products, fortified foods and vitamin supplements. Another one is Pro vitamin A (Carotenoids) such as lycopene, lutein and zeaxanthin, which are derived from plant products. Great Sherene Robinson, executive nutritionist, Cloudnine Group Of Hospitals, Chennai sheds light on all sources of vitamin A and how to include it in our diet.

Benefits
- Maintains integrity and function of all the surface tissues like the skin, the lining of the respiratory tract, the gut, the bladder and the inner ear and eye.
- The antioxidants present in vitamin A protect our body from certain types of cancer.
- It helps in the production of white blood cells.
- It helps to prevent infection. Vitamin A is critical for vision and it also prevents Age-related macular degeneration.
- It supports eye health.
- Vitamin A helps in sperm and egg development, in reproduction, and also helps in placental health, fetal tissue development and growth.
- Vitamin A plays a huge role in our skin, eyes, immunity and it helps in proper growth and development.

FAQs
- **What are the risks of Vitamin A deficiency?**
Vitamin A deficiency can cause blindness and increases the risk of viral infection in individuals. It can also give you headaches, frequent fatigue, blurred vision and several mild-severe complications.

- **What are the risks of consuming too much Vitamin A?**
Over-consumption of anything can have consequences. Hence, it is advised that one should always do everything in moderation. Excessive intake of vitamin A can give you a serious case of nausea and vomiting.

Predominant sources
Animal sources
- Liver (Beef, Goat, Chicken)
- Fish oil • Fish Liver
- Egg yolk
- Dairy products like milk, cheese and butter

Plant Sources
Several seasonal fruits and vegetables are said to be rich in vitamin A. These are found as carotenoids which will be converted by the body into retinol during digestion which then can be utilised. Vitamin A requires some fat in the diet which will aid in absorption. Vitamin A malabsorption can happen when there is celiac disease, Crohn's disease, alcoholism, cirrhosis and cystic fibrosis. Below are some of the common plant-based sources of vitamin A.
- Mangoes • Apricots • Papayas
- Carrots • Sweet potatoes
- Cantaloupe • Bell peppers
- Summer squash • Yellow maize
- Amaranth • Spinach • Drumstick • Fenugreek • Agathi leaves

Deficiency
Mild deficiency can cause fatigue, infertility and susceptibility to infection. But serious deficiency can cause night blindness, dry skin and hair, irregular patches on the white of the eye, severe dryness of the eye.

How to add to diet
Including any dose of vitamin A daily can prevent our susceptibility to infections and also help us build a healthy immune system. So have you started including your portion of yellow or orange or green to the plate?

How to meet requirement
It is not a difficult task to meet your body's vitamin A needs. This can simply be achieved by maintaining a balance and by including healthy greens, seasonal fruits and colourful vegetables into your meals. Since vitamin A is fat-soluble, it needs to be eaten with some fats for it to be efficiently absorbed into our blood. So add a dash of olive oil or healthy fat in your salad or a small touch of ghee or butter to your palak dishes for aiding vitamin A to reach your system.

MIRRORLIGHTS

Ways to use zip bags in kitchen

The pandemic has undoubtedly taught us the importance of time management and the use of multi-utility products to organise our lives. High-quality zipper bags are a recent innovation for a hassle-free and organised experience. These bags have caused a significant revolution in kitchens and are also suitable for other items that need to be kept organised and in one location.

Use them to make one week's worth of meal prep and organise it by labelling the bags with the designated day/type of meal stored in them. This can make your week's meals less stressful and save you time on last-minute preparations.

Leafy vegetables, such as coriander leaves, mint leaves, methi leaves, spinach, or spring onions, generally spoil even when refrigerated. To keep them fresh for a longer period of time, first dry them out (if there is any water) by leaving them open in the room on a piece of paper. Once the water has dried up, place it in a bag and place it in the refrigerator. The bag traps moisture and thus keeps your leafy greens fresh and in good condition for a long time.

Health-conscious individuals who enjoy smoothies and include them in either of their meals on a daily basis can now relax about taking time away from their chores to prepare them. These zipper bags keep your chopped fruits fresh for an extended period of time

Even when frozen, it is difficult for non-vegetarians to keep meat fresh for an extended period of time. Use zipper bags for fresh, odour-free storage.

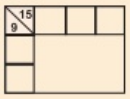
You can save freezer space by freezing food flat in zipper bags for easy stacking instead of using a hard plastic container. Because these double-line zipper bags are leak-proof, you can use them for soups as well.

To fill cupcake moulds, cut half the bag off, place the filling inside, roll it from above, cut a slightly thicker part off the corner, and easily fill the moulds. To pipe a long-winded birthday message, simply snip off the tip of the corner.

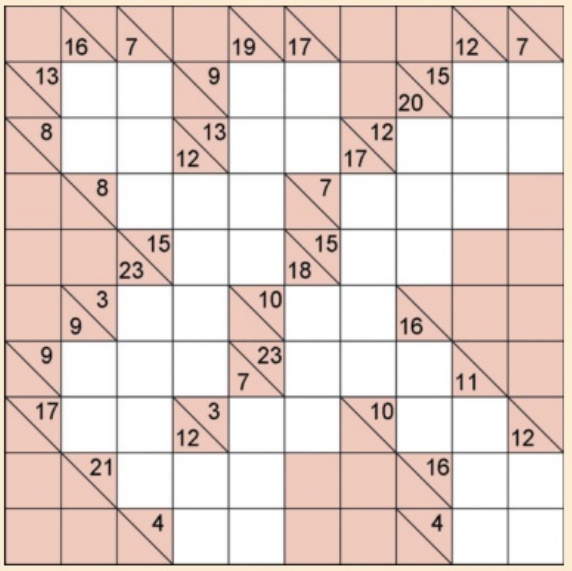
-IANS

Kakuro

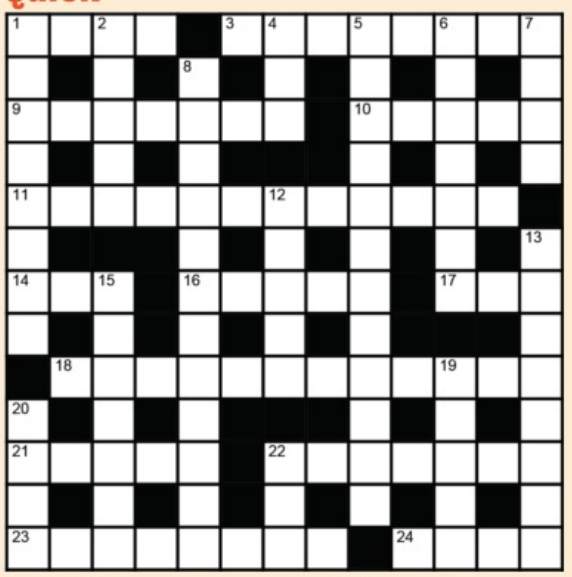
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Terrible Russian (4)
3 Impartial (8)
9 Temple town in Uttara Kannada (7)
10 Nurses; is inclined to (5)
11 Resisting staunchly (12)
14 Period of time (3)
16 Republic neighbouring the Dominican Republic (5)
17 Ministry of Radio Industry (3)
18 Carried out a procedure in a lab? (12)
21 Fountain in Rome (5)
22 More fortunate (7)
23 Freezing fluids? (8)
24 Clothed (4)

DOWN

1 Swallowed (8)
2 ___ __ questions, and you will be told no lies...? (3,2)
4 BJP and their allies? (3)
5 Good mental capacity (12)
6 Antonym of antonym (7)
7 Rush (4)
8 Unrestrained (4-8)
12 Proof of innocence (5)
13 Blocked or thwarted (8)
15 Fear or mental anguish (7)
19 Textile fabric (5)
20 Pertaining to the ear (4)
22 Cricket great Sir ____ Hutton (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Y EQUALS G

MFI LFUB FP LBHUB BCAOZAOY HOMBCAOY'L QFLLAGXK AP MFI'WK YFB KOFIYC OKUWK.

Linemaro

You seem to have lost weight. Are you working out?

Mindchow

The problem with political jokes is they get elected

Joke of the day

Q: Are kidneys male or female?
A: Female, because they always go to the bathroom in pairs

Loop

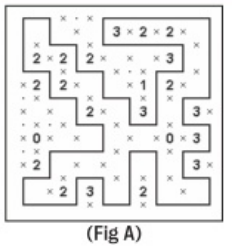
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

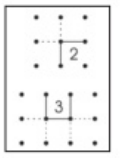
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

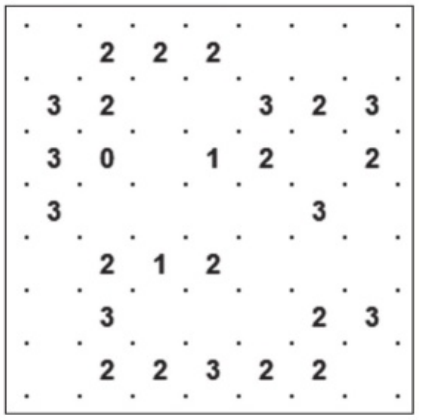
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



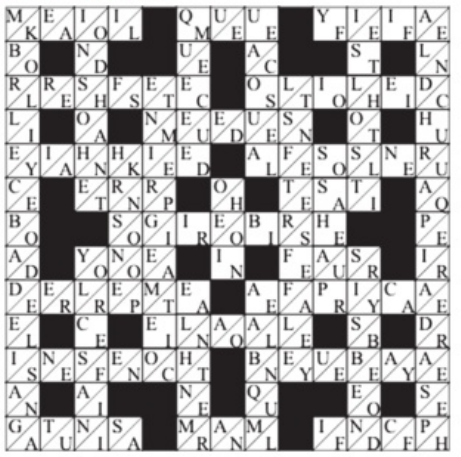
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



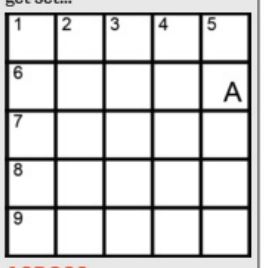
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

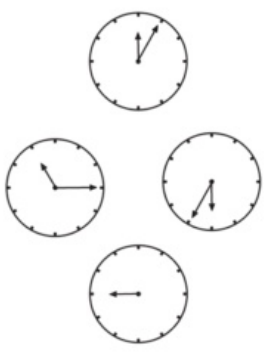
1 Spers; 6 A tear; 7 Lac it; 8 Tents; 9 Irk my

DOWN

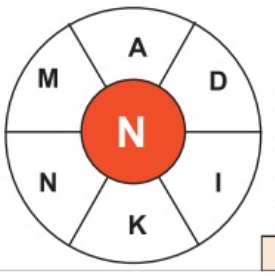
1 Prims; 2 Trice; 3 Arete; 4 Tanks; 5 Slaty

Mensapuzzle

Where should the minute hand be put on the bottom clock?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; 06 Good; 08 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

4			8		9			7
		3	6		4	5		
	1						6	
7	3			6			1	5
		6				3		
2	5			9			7	4
	8						4	
		7	2		8	1		
6			7		1			3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 15

2 3 4 4

Medium = 12

1 2 3 7

Hard = 36

1 4 9 1

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

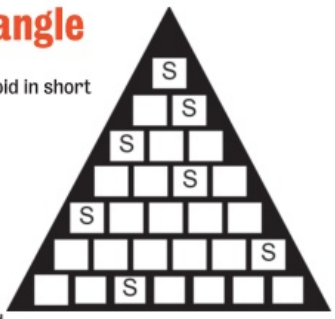
Differences: 1. Briefcase clasp is different. 2 Pocket is reversed. 3. Man is thinner. 4. Hat is different. 5. Button is added. 6. Window is different.

Riddler

The sum of four numbers is 83. If one is subtracted from the first number, two is added to the second number, the third is divided by three and the fourth is multiplied by four, then all the results are equal. What is the difference between the largest and smallest of the original numbers?

Alpha triangle

1 Sulphur symbol
2 Windows or Android in short
3 Sun
4 In addition
5 Artillery volley
6 Portions of bread
7 Exonerate



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

IT'S IMPORTANT FOR A WARRIOR TO HAVE A FAITHFUL PONY LIKE LOCO, POKEY
...ALWAYS STANDING BY READY TO CARRY YOU INTO DEADLY COM...
11-24
...BAT

Bizarrotrip

COMICS
The eye mask calms the mind while the mineral soak soothes and exfoliates.
SIDE HUSTLE at the HIDEOUT
Wayno & Piraro
12-4-21
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

"SUNSHINE SWIM TEAM"? "DELECTABLE IN OUBLIETTE"? I HAVEN'T MET ANYONE ELSE THAT READS THESE BOOKS!
OH, MAN, THEN YOU'LL LOVE "BLIZZARD BILLIARDS - BLUESHIFT"!
I JUST FINISHED THE THIRD SEASON LAST WEEKEND!
ACTIVATE THE BOREALIS DRIVE!
BLIZZARD BILLIARDS Blue Shift
SUNDAY

Crankshaft

WHERE'S YOUR SMART PAD?
LET'S SEE... IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I USED IT... WHERE COULD IT BE?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR SMART PAD IS?
IT'S BEEN A LONG WHILE SINCE I'VE USED IT.
BATIUK & DAVIS
12-1

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy with domestic issues. You might take interest in artefacts, movies and fashion, which may improve your creativity. You may spend money buying some artefacts and household stuff, which will improve your social status. You may become more polite with others. You may also plan to visit some desired place for family or friends.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be more happy; your internal vitality will boost your self confidence. You'll feel relaxed after a sound sleep. You should avoid carelessness in making decisions in terms of finance, profession and studies. You may enjoy some romantic moments with your spouse. Sometimes, you may face self respect issues; you need to keep patience to avoid converting happy moments into bad ones.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your tendency to overspend may affect your savings. You should be careful while expressing yourself on the work and domestic fronts. You should avoid lending money. You should postpone making important decisions in real estate and other assets. You should try to avoid a tendency of elevation from your responsibilities.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, with the help of your strong network, you may implement your business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. You may also have harmony in your domestic life; there might be good understanding between you and your spouse. Natives related to metal and booking agents will do better.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be passionate in terms of work. You should avoid mixing your brain with your heart to make important decisions. It is advised to follow your intuition before making some decisions related to business, job and investments. Workload may be there but blessings from elders may help you control this messy situation.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
This morning, you may have some mental peace. You are not in a hurry today, which may reflect into your way of working. Your destiny may help to complete your postponed projects and targets. You may show patience in your domestic life in order to maintain harmony in the domestic life. You may have some skin or stomach-related issues.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be a victim of negative thoughts. You may feel dull. Impatient nature and arrogance may push you back from making difficult decisions. You may be in need of the blessings of your elders, which will help you grow in your work front. You should avoid making investments in dead assets. Love birds shall avoid discussing bad moments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today is good for your work; you may be able to perform well. Your boss may give you some new responsibility in terms of promotions. Disputes with the partner may settle down. You may lend money for making assets. Your kids' health may be better now. You are likely to make some investments for the kids' future.

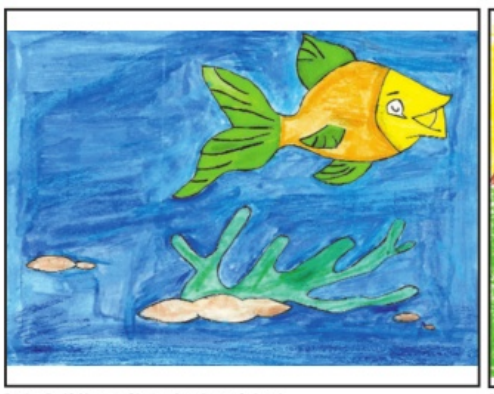
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may be happy due to the blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of energy, which may create your prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. Love will be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match.
You may do better in terms of your professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery may give positive gains in the near future. You should be careful of your elders' health.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, the start of the day may be dull. After late evening, you may control negativity. New people may connect with you on the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before putting your signature.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, with the help of blessings , you may control your indecisiveness . Kids' health is better now. Your colleagues may be supportive at work, which will invite success in your project. You may expect to get some incentives with the salary. Natives related to dairy, water projects, grains, home maker art and culture may do good.

KIDZONE



Disha P, 12 Years, Christ Academy School

Ankitha Ragin Raju, 9 Years, Presidency School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
9-3²3+1
0+1
9-9+1
=1

BULL'S EYE
akin, damn, dank, kind, math, MANKIND, mind, mink

RIDDLER 44

QUOTE UNCODE
You sort of start thinking anything's possible if you've got enough nerve.

FAST FIVE

P	R	E	S	S
R	E	A	T	A
I	C	T	A	L
S	T	E	N	T
M	I	R	K	Y

STRIKE OUT

G	U	N	S		R	A	M		I	N	C	H		
N		I		E		U		O		S				
I	N	F	E	C	T		B	Y	E	B	Y	E		
L		E		I	N	A	L		B		D			
D	E	L	E	T	E		A	F	R	I	C	A		
D		O		N	E		E	A	R		R			
C		E	R	R		H		T	A	T		A		
O		O	G	R	E	I	S	H		P				
Y	A	N	K	E	E		L	E	S	S	E	R		
L		A		N	U	D	E	S		O		H		
L	E	S	S	E		S	T	O	L	I	D			
O		N		U		A		S		N				
M	A	I	L		O	U	E		F	I	F	A		

QUICK

C	R	Y	O	G	E	N	S		C	L	A	D		
I		T		N		E		L		E				
T	R	E	V	I		L	U	C	K	I	E	R		
E		N		E		E		N		D		S		
G	O	K	A	R	N	A		T	E	N	D	S		
N		S		F		D		N		Y		A		
E		N		E		E		O		H				
S	T	O	N	E	W	A	L	L	I	N	G			
H		W		L		L		Y		H				
E	R	A		H	A	I	T	I		M	R	I		
T		D		N		E		B		G		N		
E	X	P	E	R	I	M	E	N	T	E	D			
E		N		I		L		N		W		E		
O		I		L		N		W		B		D		
L	E	I	N	A	L	L		B		D				
D		O		N	E		E	A	R		R			
P		O	G	R	E	I	S	H		P				

MENSA PUZZLE
Hand pointing to 5
Starting with the top clock and moving anti-clockwise around the others, the hour hand moves back 1 hour, then 2, then 3 etc, while the minute hand moves forward 10 minutes each time.

SUDOKU

6	2	4	7	5	1	9	8	3
3	9	7	2	4	8	1	5	6
5	8	1	9	3	6	7	4	2
2	5	8	1	9	3	6	7	4
1	4	6	5	8	7	3	2	9
7	3	9	4	6	2	8	1	5
9	1	2	3	7	5	4	6	8
8	7	3	6	2	4	5	9	1
4	6	5	8	1	9	2	3	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
S, OS, Sol, Also, Salvo, Loaves, Absolve.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 x 4 + 4 + 3 = 15
Medium
3 x 2 + 7 – 1 = 12
Hard
4 x 9 x 1 x 1 = 36

LOOP

KAKURO

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Illaiyaraaja's tribute
Composer Ilaiyaraaja, who collaborated with Lata Mangeshkar on a number of songs, said her divine voice mesmerised people world over

BangaloreMirror | 12
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Melody Queen departs

Bharat Ratna laid to rest; Rajya Sabha will be adjourned for an hour today; tributes pour in from world over as nightingale passes on

Though anticipated, when it became official that the Melody Queen of India, Lata Mangeshkar, is no longer among us, it hit the collective consciousness of the nation like a sledgehammer.

The only consolation was that she may have passed on, but her voice, which moved our hearts and provided succour to our souls for more than seven decades, will forever be with us.

Like all inspirational stories, Lataji's early struggle to establish herself in the 1940s is one that we cannot ever forget. In those days, she would take a BEST bus and travel from her south Mumbai home regularly to meet Naushad Ali at his Khar West bungalow or in the studios, hoping for a 'singing break' under the legendary music maker's baton.

In the vicious Mumbai monsoon, she would come to Naushad's home, wearing her trademark sari, carrying an umbrella but totally drenched, shivering and barely able to speak, let alone sing. The music director would offer her piping hot tea and cookies to soothe her, but no songs ... yet ... ."I felt her voice was not yet 'ripe' for my style of music," said Naushad, the perfectionist, in a conversation with this writer. He was trying to justify not giving her an early break. "To improve her diction and control over words, I advised her to learn and practice Urdu, which she did ... and finally, she was ready to record for me."

The first choices of Naushad were the reigning stalwarts -- Noorjehan, Suraiya, Shamshad Begum, Zohra Ambalewali, to name a few.

With time, trained by her father, Dinananth Mangeshkar, Lataji grasped the maestro's advice and got her first major hit -- 'Uthaye Ja Unke Sitam' ('Andaz', 1949) -- composed by her mentor Naushad. With it, she 'arrived' in the film industry.

Thereafter, top music directors of the era wooed her, and they included Sachin Dev Burman, Husan Lal-Bhagat Ram (brothers), Ghulam Haider, Sardar Malik, Ghulam Mohammed, Jaidev, Salil Chowdhary, C. Ramchandra, Shankar-Jaikishan (partners), Roshan, Madan Mohan, M. Zahur Khayyam, Kalyanji-Anandji (brothers), Laxmikant-Pyarelal (partners), Sonik-Omi (uncle-nephew), Ravi Kumar Sharma or 'Ravi', Sudhir Phadke, Sajjad Hussain, Usha Khanna, and even A.R. Rahman, Anu Malik, Rajesh Roshan, Anand-Milind and Jatin-Lalit, among the younger crop of baton wielders. Without doubt, she had become the first among women singers.

Born on September 28, 1929, as the oldest child of a musically inclined family in Indore (Madhya Pradesh) -- comprising father Dinanath, Lataji, Meena (Khadilkar), Asha (Bhosale), Usha and sole brother Hridaynath -- she was tutored by her dad from the age of five and also acted in his musical stage plays, till death in 1942.

Helped by a close family friend, Master Vinayak D. Karnataki, she got a foothold in singing and acting that year with a first Marathi song and a maiden Hindi song in 1943 before shifting to the film industry capital in 1945.

In Bombay (now, Mumbai), she learnt classical music and continued singing the odd songs, till her big break with 'Dil Mera Toda, Mujhe Kahinka Na Chhoda' ('Majboor', 1948), with full help from Ghulam Haider, whom she later described as her "godfather".

Over the decades, she was decorated with a multitude of rewards and honours -- three Padma awards, five Filmfare Awards, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award -- capped by the Bharat Ratna in 2001. More than that, state governments named awards and institutions after her.

Death has only removed her physically. The legacies she leaves behind will outlive her for decades.

-Quaid Najmi, IANS

Defense forces and police carry the body of Lata Mangeshkar, outside her home in Mumbai on Sunday. The Bharat Ratna was cremated with full state honours. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was also in Shivaji Park to pay tribute to the singer. Also present were Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, MNS supremo Raj Thackeray and actors Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan. Earlier in the afternoon, as a flower-bedecked cortege went from her Peddar Road home to Shivaji Park, surging crowds of mourners walked along, many thousands lined the 10-km route and millions tuned into their screens to say goodbye to the woman who had been an integral part of their lives.

Tell us, readers

As we bid goodbye to the nightingale of India, please tell us which of her songs you cannot get out of your mind. Email us on mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

Tributes pour in

RAM NATH KOVIND,
PRESIDENT OF INDIA
Lata-ji's demise is heart-breaking for me, as it is for millions the world over. In her vast range of songs, rendering the essence and beauty of India, generations found expression of their inner-most emotions. A Bharat Ratna, Lata-ji's accomplishments will remain incomparable."

NARENDRA MODI,
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA
"I am anguished beyond words. The kind and caring Lata Didi has left us. She leaves a void in our nation that cannot be filled. The coming generations will remember her as a stalwart of Indian culture, whose melodious voice had an unparalleled ability to mesmerise people."

RAHUL GANDHI,
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
"She remained the most beloved voice of India for many decades. Her golden voice is immortal and will continue to echo in the hearts of her fans. My condolences to her family, friends and fans."

AMITABH BACHCHAN,
VETERAN BOLLYWOOD ACTOR
"She has left us .. The voice of a million centuries has left us .. her voice resounds now in the Heavens! Prayers for calm and peace."

A R RAHMAN,
OSCAR- AND GRAMMY-WINNING MUSIC DIRECTOR
"Love, respect and prayers."

ANIL KAPOOR, ACTOR
"Heartbroken, but blessed to have known & loved this incredible soul ... Lata-ji holds a place in our hearts that will never be taken by anyone else. That's how profoundly she has impacted our lives with her music. May she rest in peace & light up the heavens with her brightness."

SALMAN KHAN, ACTOR
"(You) will be missed our nightingale. But (your) voice shall live with us forever."

State Mourning

The Karnataka government has ordered state mourning of two days as a mark of respect for Lata Mangeshkar. There would be no public recreational programmes and the national flag will fly at half mast during the mourning period, a state government notification said.